

STATE OF MINNESOTA

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July 14, 1983



Wayne Popham
Popham, Haik, Schnobrich, Kaufman
& Doty, Ltd.
4344 IDS Center
80 South 8th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

Re: U.S. v. Reilly Tar & Chemical Corp. File No. Civ. 4-80-469

Dear Mr. Popham:

Enclosed herewith and served upon you by U.S. Mail is State of Minnesota's Answer to Cross-Claim of City of St. Louis Park.

Very truly yours

Stephen Shakman Special Assistant Attorney General

SS:mah

Enclosure

cc: All Counsel of Record

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA FOURTH DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

and

STATE OF MINNESOTA, by its Attorney General Hubert H. Humphrey, III, its Department of Health, and its Pollution Control Agency, Civil No. 4-80-469

Plaintiff-Intervenor,

v.

REILLY TAR & CHEMICAL CORPORATION; HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF ST. LOUIS PARK; OAK PARK VILLAGE ASSOCIATES: RUSTIC OAKS CONDOMINIUM INC.; and PHILIP'S INVESTMENT CO.,

Defendants.

STATE OF MINNESOTA'S ANSWER TO CROSS-CLAIM OF CITY OF ST. LOUIS PARK

and

CITY OF ST. LOUIS PARK,

Plaintiff-Intervenor,

v.

REILLY TAR & CHEMICAL CORPORATION,

Defendant.

and

CITY OF HOPKINS,

Plaintiff-Intervenor,

v.

REILLY TAR & CHEMICAL CORPORATION,

Defendant.

Plaintiff-Intervenor State of Minnesota for its answer to the Cross-Claim of Plaintiff-Intervenor City of St. Louis Park herein admits, denies, and alleges as follows:

- 1. Admits paragraphs 18 and 20 of the Cross-Claim.
- 2. Insofar as paragraph 19 of the Cross-Claim purports to summarize the Counterclaim of Defendant Reilly Tar & Chemical Corporation, the State alleges that the Counterclaim speaks for itself and refers the Court to the full text thereof.
- 3. Admits that at various times prior to the execution of the Agreement for Purchase of Real Estate and the Hold Harmless Agreement, St. Louis Park personnel consulted with Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) personnel about the consequences of past pollution from Reilly Tar's operation; otherwise denies the allegations in paragraph 21 of the Cross-Claim.
- 4. Admits that Reilly Tar's termination of operations at its St. Louis Park plant in 1972 mooted certain claims for relief in the 1970 lawsuit brought jointly by St. Louis Park and the State against Reilly Tar; otherwise denies the allegations in paragraph 22 of the Cross-Claim.
- 5. Denies the allegations in paragraphs 23 and 24 of the Cross-Claim.
- 6. Except as expressly admitted, denied, or otherwise qualified hereinabove, denies each and every allegation, matter, fact, and thing contained in the Cross-Claim.

FIRST SEPARATE DEFENSE

7. The Cross-Claim fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

SECOND SEPARATE DEFENSE

- 8. This suit is brought by the State in its sovereign, governmental capacity to protect public health, welfare, natural resources, and the environment.
- 9. The Cross-Claim is barred because neither estoppel nor any other preclusion may be invoked against the State when suing in its sovereign, governmental capacity to protect public health, welfare, natural resources, and the environment.

THIRD SEPARATE DEFENSE

- 10. Any representation made to St. Louis Park personnel by MDH or MPCA personnel was made in the performance of a discretionary duty.
- 11. The Cross-Claim is barred because neither estoppel nor any other preclusion may be invoked against the State on the basis of a State employee's performance or failure to perform a discretionary duty.

FOURTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

- 12. Any representations by MPCA or MDH personnel cited in paragraph 21 of the Cross-Claim were beyond the scope of the State employee(s)' duty and not authorized by the MPCA or the MDH.
- 13. There can be no estopped or other preclusion against the State or its agencies based upon State employees' statements

which were outside the scope of the employees' duty and not authorized by the agencies.

FIFTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

- 14. Prior to the execution of the Hold Harmless Agreement,
 St. Louis Park had equal or greater knowledge than the State, and
 equal or greater access to knowledge, of the facts with respect to
 ground water contamination emanating from the Reilly Tar site.
- 15. The Cross-Claim is barred because there can be no estoppel or other preclusion between parties as to facts which were equally known by or equally accessible to both parties.

SIXTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

- 16. No false representation of material fact was knowingly made to St. Louis Park personnel by MDH or MPCA personnel.
- 17. The Cross-Claim is barred because there can be no estoppel or other preclusion where the party to be estopped did not knowingly make a false representation of material fact.

SEVENTH SEPARATE DEFENSE

- 18. Counsel for St. Louis Park was informed by counsel for the State, immediately prior to the execution of the Hold Harmless Agreement by St. Louis Park, that no dismissal of the State's action against Reilly Tar would be considered until such time as the MPCA had received and reviewed a proposal for eliminating potential pollution hazards at the Reilly Tar site.
- 19. The Hold Harmless Agreement was executed by St. Louis
 Park without the knowledge of the State, prior to submission

by Reilly Tar or by St. Louis Park to the MPCA of any proposal for eliminating potential pollution hazards at the site, and prior to any review or approval of such a proposal by the MPCA.

20. If, contrary to paragraph 20 of the Cross-Claim, the Hold Harmless Agreement was and is broad enough to cover the present ground water contamination claims of the State, St. Louis Park's Cross-Claim against the State is barred because of St. Louis Park's assumption of the risk.

WHEREFORE, the State of Minnesota prays that the Cross-Claim of the City of St. Louis Park be dismissed and that the State of Minnesota be awarded the costs and disbursements expended on defense of the Cross-Claim.

Dated: July 14, 1983

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY, III Attorney General

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